

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 11, as follows:

From the access of the number portability database, the server determines, among other things, the identity of the network operator currently serving the entity/device to be contacted. In particular, the number portability database provides a network identifier corresponding to the network operator associated with the entity. The network identifier is used in to make the process of resolving the telephone number into a corresponding Internet address faster and more efficient by sending the query directly to a DNS server in the identified network for resolution.